

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Level and Advanced Level

HISTORY

9697/03

Paper 3 International History, 1945–1991

October/November 2006

3 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.
Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black pen.

You may use a soft pencil for any diagrams, graphs or rough working.
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **four** questions.

You must answer **Question 1** (Section A) and **three** questions from Section B.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.
All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

Section A

You must answer Question 1.

THE UN AND THE PALESTINIAN REFUGEE PROBLEM

- 1 Read the sources and then answer the question.

Source A

11 December will mark the 55th anniversary of UN Resolution 194. By this historic act, the world community, speaking through the United Nations, formally acknowledges the right of return to their homes and property of Palestinians who were driven out as a result of Zionist military operations in 1948 that culminated in the declaration of the State of Israel.

Adopted 11 December 1948 Resolution 194 reads:-

'Refugees wishing to return to their homes and live in peace with their neighbours should be permitted to do so at the earliest practicable date.

Compensation should be paid for loss or damage to property.'

In the context of upholding the UN Charter and international law, Resolution 194 continues to hold great symbolic as well as practical significance. For the first time with regard to a specific conflict, an international body of sovereign states resolved that acts of violation of human rights, such as the right of return, could not be permitted to stand. The world community asserted that individual and collective human rights now stand above the claims of individual states.

Uniquely in the history of the UN, Resolution 194 has been reaffirmed more than 25 times and confirmed more than 130 times. The number of refugees at the time numbered more than 750 000 or 60 per cent of the population of Palestine.

From a television broadcast by Al Jazeera, an Arab Broadcasting Company, 6 December 2003.

Source B

The key document cited by supporters of a Palestinian right to return is Resolution 194, passed after the first Arab-initiated war against Israel.

Through many years and multiple wars, the Arab states refused ever to recognise Israel, much less to reach a peaceful settlement. The only clause of the Resolution ever acknowledged by Arabs was Paragraph 11, which suggested that:-

'Refugees wishing to return to their homes and live in peace with their neighbours should be permitted to do so.'

The requirement that they accept living 'at peace with their neighbours' meant that the Palestinians had to accept Israel's right to exist, something that very few were willing to do. Further, it did not even hint at any return of descendants of refugees.

An article published by the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America, a Jewish American organisation, 1 September 2000.

Source C

The Arab-Israeli War of 1947 led to a large-scale Arab exodus. Most Arab refugees were easily persuaded to emigrate. By doing so they believed it would enable Israel to triumph and result in the permanent loss of Arab land. A large-scale relief operation was mounted by the United Nations Relief and Works Administration (UNRWA) had the task of providing tented camps for 750,000 displaced Palestinian Arabs. It then had the task of setting up clinics for basic healthcare, for measures of environmental health, education and training. This mission is still very active today and depends for 93 per cent of its funding on voluntary contributions from governments. Trygve Lie, the UN's first Secretary-General, was to express the belief that if the major powers wanted to do something positive through the UN then Palestine was the place to do it.

An historian writing in 1995.

Source D

The Arab states demanded a settlement of the refugee question as a precondition of even discussing other matters. Israel, on the other hand, demanded that the matter be discussed as part of general negotiations for a final settlement. The only point on which there was any agreement was a scheme for the return of refugees separated from their families by the Arab-Israeli War. Israel eventually agreed in principle to accept 100 000 refugees. The United States urged Israel, it was reported, to accept about 300 000 refugees but this was rejected by Israel.

A British historian writing in 1982.

Source E

The UN first took up the refugee issue and adopted Resolution 194 on 11 December 1948. This called upon Arab states and Israel to resolve all outstanding issues through negotiations either directly, or through the Palestine Conciliation Committee established by this resolution.

Resolution 194 met most of Israel's concerns regarding the refugees, who feared they would be regarded as potential enemies if they were allowed to return unconditionally. The Israelis considered the settlement of the refugee issue as a negotiable part of an overall peace settlement. At the time the Israelis did not expect the refugees to be a major issue. They thought the Arab states would resettle the majority of refugees. The Arabs were not willing to compromise. In fact they unanimously rejected the UN Resolution.

An article on a website called the Jewish Virtual Library, 2005.

Now answer the question.

How far do Sources A–E support the view that the UN's attempt to solve the Palestinian refugee problem was doomed to failure?

Section B

You must answer **three** questions from this section.

You must **not** answer both Question 3 and Question 4.

- 2 How far has the collapse of the USSR affected the historical debate about the origins of the Cold War?
- 3 Which of the two superpowers, the USA and the USSR, was more responsible for the globalisation of the Cold War?

OR

- 4 Assess the relative contributions of the USA and the USSR to the outbreak and outcome of the Korean War.
- 5 How successfully, in the period until 1991, did the Chinese Communist leadership respond to the problems it faced in the 1980s?
- 6 How successful were international efforts in the period from 1963 to 1991 to control nuclear weapons?
- 7 'The formation of the Group of Seven in 1975 marked the end of the USA's dominance of the international economy.' How far do you agree?
- 8 How far was it the enterprise and hard work of their populations that explained the success of the Asian Tiger economies?

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